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A STATE CAPITOL

BY

GEORGE AWSUMB

THESIS

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science
in Architecture

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

PRESENTED, JUNE, 1906

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THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER MY SUPERVISION BY

George Awsumb

ENTITLED A State Capitol

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

OF Bachelor of Science in Architecture

N. Clifford Ricker.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF Architecture

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Thesis.

Design for a State Capitol.

George Lawrence, 06

The subject which I have chosen is a very large one and in order to obtain the best results, in the time alotted, I took up a concrete problem. This problem is represented in the program of the Architectural Competition, issued in 1904, for a new Capitol building to be erected for the State of Wisconsin.

The requirements were very fully given as to space alotted, etc, and all the principal departments were located as desired. In following the problem I have tried to conform as closely as would be possible without departing from the character of plan which I had taken up.

I have obtained a plan of the Capitol Square at Madison, from the city engineer giving the width of all streets, walks, etc.

The square itself is a most admirable location for a state House. First because of its location at the center of the city, and second because of the admirable system of approaches. The four leading avenues to the principal sides of the Capitol are each 132 ft wide. All streets shown on plan are as they actually appear with all other dimensions the same.

After a year's residence in Madison I have observed that no one approach is predominantly the important one; hence the principal characteristic of my plan that of a Greek cross, with four main entrances. The extreme length of the cross is 384 ft not including the

steps and other approaches which enter from a crowned arcade in it self 496 ft long. Outside of the arcade are approaches, a drive way passing entirely round and grass plots to the sidewalk.

The building proper rises in three stories surmounted by an attic. This mass as a base supports a square base and circular dome. The solution gives a very monumental appearance and a composition from any point of view.

The plan is the simplest entering as before stated from four sides and rising to the floors above by stairways in the rotunda and elevators around the center. This arrangement of stairways obviates the necessity of wasting a great amount of space for that purpose which has been so often done.

The second or principal floor ~~contains~~ contains the three large assembly rooms and library with committee rooms, etc. The floor above accom-

odates the galleries and other offices. A large Grand Army room and the departments are located on the fourth floor.

The drawings submitted in this thesis are,-

(1) First floor plan, with plan of grounds included, scale 1/32 inch equals one foot.

(2.) Principal floor plan scale — inch equals 1 ft.

(3) Elevation at 1/16 inch equals one foot.

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